# WASHINGTON

The Republican Party Becoming Demoralized.

Radical Arraignment of the Administration.

Startling Increase of Expenditures.

A Magnificent Job in the Philadelphia Navy Yard.

Proposed Sale of the Brooklyn Mavy Yard.

Preparations for the Reception of Prince Arthur.

Startling Speech of a Mussachusetts Radical-Extravagance of Grunt's Administration-

Mr. Henry L. Dawes, of Massachusetts, chairman the Committee on Appropriations, astonished his fellow republicans not less than the democrats in the House to-day by his exposition of what he terms "the tendency of the administration to profligate expenditures." The immediate occasion of the ch was the proposition now before the Houseto transfer the Philadelphia Navy Yard from its present site to League Island. Mr. Dawes opposed the bill on the ground, first, that would take at least a million out of he Treasury, and, second, because the bill gives the ecretary of the Navy power to dispose of the land where the yard now stands, and also gives him the ontrol of the money. He broadly hinted that he nch power. When he made this announce on both sides of the House pricked up however, was only the presude to a general ontion, with the exception of Attorney General Hoar, who, said Dawes, "is the only one who has not proposed at the other end of the capitol to turn him office." This en passant compliment to the erudite Attorney General was received as a good joke, and created a ripple of laughter on both sides. As Mr. Dawes warmed up with his subject the mem bers left their seats and began crowding aroun hm where he stood. The democrats, who seemed to catch the first notes of what he said about extravagant expenditures in connection with the tration, came over from their side of the hall to the republican side and listened atten-, and no doubt approvingly, to the mg array of official facts and figures. Dawes did not speak from memory or vaguely. When he referred to figures he held in his hand the official timates furnished the committee by the heads of departments for appropriations for the fiscal year of Grant's administration, and he gave dollars and the statements which have been circulated so industriously in the newspapers and on the stump about onomy and retrenchment of the present administration. The appropriations asked for the navy yards were greater than ever before. The only hope of retrenchment in the Navy Department held out to the country was in the item of coal. Here, it was said, we would save \$1,000,000, when the official records showed that the coal used by the navy last year, under Old Father Velles, only amounted to \$150,000. At this point the democrats indulged in a laugh at the expense of the johy Robeson. The Postmaster General, with whom it is said Dawes is not on the best of berms, came in for his share of ridicule and blame. Creswell's calculation that it cost the government \$6,000,000 a year to maintain the franking privilege was dissected, and Dawes asserted that if the postage on all the matter sent members of Congress was allow every member to mail 800 letters every day in he year. Dawes' comparison of the estimates of appropriations asked for during the last year of Andrew Johnson's administration with those of the first year of the present administration was highly creditable to the former and decidedly damaging to the latter. Several prominent democrats said no bester defence of Andrew Johnson's administration could have been made than was exhibited to-day in the comparison of the estimates for appropriations According to the showing of the chairman of the Appropriation Committee, and he is regarded as a careful man, the estimates of the present ad ministration for the first year exceed those of the last year of Andrew Johnson's ammistration \$49,000,000. This did not include he said the millions asked for St. Domingo, for the New York Post Office-he said nothing about the Boston Post Office and for League Island. The conclusion of Dawes's speech was, the administration and the republican party had not kept faith with the people on the promises of economy and retrenchment through which they were placed in power. The speech made a marked effect on the House, and is the genera subject of conversation in official and political circles to-night. The democrats, as might be ex-

for discussion on the stump.

The Gold Panic Investigation. The gold panic investigating committee had another session to-day and examined Mr. Stout, of the Tenth National Bank, New York, and Mr. timony of these witnesses, like that of those already examined, was unimportant and contained nothing beyond what appeared in the newspapers at the time of the panic. There seems to be really no good reason for the secresy which the members ceedings. Mr. S. S. Cox, of New York, a member of nittee, is so well satisfied of this that he has made a proposition to have the investigation conducted publicly, or at least to admit representatives of the press. The important witnesses, such as Fisk, Gould and Corbin, are not expected to ar rive here until the latter part of the week. The mittee are puzzled to know what to do with Corbin, who sends word that he has no idea when his health will permit him to attend the committee's

pected, are delighted with it. Judge Woodward

save it is the best campaign document the demo

erate can distribute next fall, and the best theme

New York Post Office Investigation-Large Mistake in the Architect's Estimates.
The House Postal Committee examined Benjamin Oertly to-day concerning the plans and estimates for the New York Post Office building. Mr. Oertly was formerly in the office of the Supervising Arch sect of the Treasury here, and says that he made out the estimates at the direction of Mr. Mullett for the New York Post Office. According to the statemen of members of the committee it appears that the arst estimate of Mr. Muliett the cost was to be \$2,500,000, and that the last estimate is \$4,000,000 Mr. Mullett states that he trusted in the first instance to Mr. Oertly, who made a mistage in his calculation, hence the difference of the estimates. Refore the committee to-day Mr. Oertly testified that his estimate was correct, according to the plans given him by Mr. Muliett, and that he had not made a mistake.

Officers' Rank in the Navy. It is understood that a bill will shortly be reported from the Senate Committee on Naval Affairs to define the status of staff officers of the navy, which will not however, interfere with nor the legitimate exercise of indepen-Sent authority by the commanding officer of any vessel. It is quite certain as long as the offiser in command of a vessel is responsible alone for its safety, discipline and judicious and effective owers. This question is fory generally understood and there is no intention to legislate in any manner to disturb the proper dissipline of the naval arm of

Proposed Sale of the Brooklyn Navy Yard. In the House to-day General Slocum introduced a It authorizes the Secretary of the Navy to sell at proved by the President, men pieces and parcels of and now owned by the government, and included within the Navy Yard located in the city of Brocklyn, as can be dispensed tith without detriment to
the public service, and to continue such sales from
time to time. The Secretary, with the approval of
the President, is authorized to secure, by purchase or otherwise, a sile to which the present shops and works of all kieds now in the Brooklyn Navy Yard can be removed. Such site is to be of ent area forta fint class navy yard. The money for the removal of the yard, as well as for the purchase of the new site and the erection of buildings thereon, is to be realized from the sale of the present site. The bill was sent to the Committee

A Foreign Steamskip Lobby-Attempt to

Defeat American Steamship Lines.

It is said that the foreign steamship companies which recently refused to carry the mails for the government at the reduced rates of postage have organized a lobby here to dissuade Congress from giving any encouragement to establishing American lines of ocean steamers. They think that by the time the temporary contract which the Postmaster General le for carrying the mails expires the government will be tired of the new arrangement and will be glad to contract with them upon the old terms. Their object is to prevent the organization of new lines of steamers owned in the United States. An ex-Postmaster General, a prominent officer of the army, connected with the Quartermaster Department, and the agent or a large steamship company in New York, are now here, said to be engaged by the foreign steamship companies to look after their in-terests and defeat all incipient rival companies.

The St. Domingo Treaty.

The Committee on Foreign Affairs of the Senate met to-day and gave the Dominican treaty a preliminary consideration. There is some talk of discussing the treaty in open session. Such action would cer tainly be satisfactory, and would give to the country the views of the leading minds of Congress on this very important question of American policy and territorial acquisition in the West Indies. The committee will deliberate care-fully and gravely upon this treaty before they come to their decision. It will be some days before the treaty will be reported to the Senate.

The Belgium Mission. in converting the Committee on Foreign Relations, of which he is chairman, to his way of thinking about Mr. J. Russell Jones; that the nomination of the latter as United States Minister to Brussels will be rejected. Mr. Sanford, who was removed by President Grant to make a place for Mr. Jones, of Galena, was a warm personal friend of Senator Sumner. The latter protested against the removal of Mr. Sanford on the ground that he was an experienced diplomat, a scholar and an accomplished gen-Complaints at the same time poured in upon the President that Sanford was a sple tertainer, but only to aristocratic classes; that his political sympathies were always with the party in power, and for that reason he was now a republi-

can, and all that sort of thing. The President decided to remove Mr. Sanford and appoint his friend Jones, Mr. Sumner to the contrary notwithstanding. Now comes Mr. Sumner's turn. Mr. Jones comes up for confirmation. The subject is referred to the Senate Committee on Foreign Re lations. Mr. Sumner is chairman of that committee. His voice is potent with the republican mem bers. Senator Casserly, of California, is the only democrat upon it. For the sake of securing the friendship and influence of the chairman on other matters of interest to themselves the republican nembers of the committee, Messrs. Cameron, Har lan, Morton, Patterson and Shurz, will quickly yield a point to Mr. Sumner, especially if he makes it a personal matter, as he no doubt will do in the case of his friend Sanford. If the committee report against a nomination it is almost equivalent to a rejection by the Senate. A confirmation is seldom made by the out the against the recommendain committee rooms, and "field fights" are thereby prevented in the Senate. There is many a man who ecomes a hero in the committee room who is never heard of on the floor of the Senate or the House. except to respond to the roll call. The President in the Senate against a committee's report. Mr. Sanford was suspended under the Tenure of Office official position at Brussels in the event of Mr. Jones This explains the secret of the opposi-

One of Andy Johnson's Foreign Appointees

tion to Mr. Jones by the Committee on Foreign Re-

It is authoritatively stated that General Hugh Ewing, Minister to the Hague, will not be removed by the President from that mission. Besides hav ing a powerful influence in the person of General Sherman, his brother-in-law, the story of his loose habits and immoral character is flatly contradicted by his friends here. The State Department is said to be in possession of facts and documentary evitence from parties living sbroad which go to prove that the charges against Ewing are untrue. That he is a democrat is also stoutly denied. Though he will not be removed by the President his resignation, it is understood, would be accepted.

Reverdy Johnson Among His Old Confreres. Reverdy Johnson made his first appearance in the Senate to-day since his return from his brief diplowas warmly greeted by Senators on both sides of the chamber. Even the rufiled Sumner forgot Virginia question and his severe commentaries on Johnson to welcome the great constitutional lawyer. The two distined gentiemen engaged in a lengthy conversation. There was nothing to show that Reverdy was lecturing Sumner for his unfriendly observations while the former was striving to settle our Alabama claims in England.

The English Minister-Preparations for the Reception of Prince Arthur.

The formal reception by the English Minister Prince Arthur will be given on Thursday, the 27th inst., at the new Masonic Temple, Mr. Thornton has engaged the entire second floor of the building, including the banqueting hall and parlors for the purpose. The decorations will be put up under the direction of Mr. Thornton, and will be of the most elegant character. The banquet will be followed by

The Office of Naval Officer to be Abeliahed. The Senate Committee on Commerce have sent to the Secretary of the Treasury for statistics and other facts relating to the duties of naval officers. Senator Spencer, of Alabama, some time since introduced a bill to abolish this office. The feeling of a majority of the committee is in favor of the measure, but it is desired first to get all information relating to the subject.

Through a private letter fro Berlin, dated December 27, 1869, your correspondent has obtained some interesting little facts respecting the progress of the Chinese Embassy. The writer of the letter referred to is in a position to know all about the matter, and his statements are entitled to the most implicit reli-ance. He writes that there is not one word of truth in the late rumors that the Chinese gov-ernment had become dissatisfied with the action of the Burlingame mission. On the contrary, he adds, "the mission never enjoyed the confidence of the Chinese government more than at present."
Further on he asserts that the very latest despatch received by Mr. Burlingame from the Chinese government commences with these words:-

What you have done shows that you possess activity, ability, accuracy and discretion. You have really deserved well of China and are highly appreciated by Frince Kung.

The writer also states:-Mr. J. McLeavy Brown is now on his way via California with the ratified treaty. You will have learned most of these facts by telegraph, and of the unusual reception the mission has met with. Prus-

mostly in China. Among those foreigners whose views have been repudiated by their own countries. It was a great thing for the old force party to get Ross Browne to turn upon his country; but deneral Grant has done for him and nobly put the country right. \* \* \* Mr. Brown (not Ross) will be in Washington when this reaches you, or soon after.

The following paragraph has been going the round

of the American press:—
It is known, says the Paris Liberté, December 17, that about a year ago Russia ordered 200,000 rifies of a new pattern from American makers. General Banks has been charged from the United States to deliver these arms to the Uzar. The General has accomplished bis mission, and returns to America with a new order for 700,000 rifies.

Since General Banks' return to the United States he was shown the above statement and pronounced it wholly untrue so far as he was concerned. He observed that the Paris Liberte had probably mis aken his name for that of General Berdan, who has large negotiations with the Russian government for the manufacture of arms, but for none belonging to our government and nothing approaching the extent in number to that named in the paragraph

of it. It illustrates how deficient foreign journalists are in knowledge of our institutions. If "American to make 200,000 rifles of a new patternifor a foreign government not at war with us or any power nterference of the United States to deliver them. On the contrary, when the United States sells arms to a foreign government the rule is to deliver them after inspection, to an authorized agent of that government at one of the principal ports. The United States is not in the habit of sending agents abroad charged with the delivery of such arms; if would be directed to perform the duty, and not one of the people's representatives who holds the high official and independent position of chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the United States House of Representatives.

On the occasion of the recent purchase by Turkey of a large lot of old Enfleid rifle muskets and Springfield rife muskets (260,000) from the United States they were delivered in New York to an ordnano officer of the Turkish army, sent by the Turkish War Minister to this country for the purpose. It is quite likely that the fact of the sale of these arms to Tur-key and the operations of General Berdan in St. Petersburg with his rifle, misled and muddled the writer in the Paris Liberté in regard to the mission of General Banks to Europe, and especially to

It is not improper to state, in this connection, that the principal object of General Banks' recent trip to Europe was to visit his family in Germany, where Mrs Banks has been residing for some time, and where sojourn abroad the General, who is a close student of men and things, made it his business to observe the workings of the different governments where he went. Being a representative American and occu pying the important official position named above, ned and politely treated by the states men of Great Britain, France, Prussia, Russia, and

While in Paris General Banks had two interview with the Emperor of the French, at the latter's renest. Beyond a desire on the part of the Emperor to meet his guest and converse upon general topic the only matter of official public importance discussed was that of the postal service between France and the United States, which has since resulted, by the order of the Emperor, in beneficial results to both Banks left Paris.

While in Berlin the General was the guest of Mr. Bancroft and Mr. Burlingame, the American and Chinese Ministers. The King of Prussis being absent Premier Bismarck was not wanting in courteou

At St. Petersburg General Banks was pre by United States Minister Curtin to the Czar, who at once received him cordially and invited him to accept a position on his personal staff and review forty thou sand of the Imperial Guard, a spectacle of unequalled military splendor. The Imperial Guard is compos of the elite of the Russian army, and is officered by the most skillful and gallant heroes in the Emperor's service. Few foreigners are ever paid so high a compliment by the Czar as he extended to General

On his way to Europe General Banks passes directly through England, and upon his return he remained but three days, each of which he spent in London. While there he was visited by Lord Clarendon, who made the trip to London on purpose, able also to meet Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Bright and other British statesmen, but duty to his constituents in Congress compelled him to hasten home, On the whole the "Little Iron Man" of Massachu-

setts, as his friends called him when he was Governer, returns to the land of his nativity greatly im proved in health, deeply impressed with what he saw and heard, but firm in the opinion that there exists nowhere else on the earth a government so wel based on liberal and just ideas, so strong and secure and no people so great and free, as the government and people of the United States. More of our states-men ought to go abroad. It will do them good. Let them follow the example of General Banks before they start, and learn to speak, read and write th French language, and they will not regret it when they are travelling abroad. But for the fact that leneral Bank speaks French with freedom he would not have been invited to two interviews by Napoleon he last one of which was of two hours' duration.

Removal of Political Disabilities. The Committee on Reconstruction to-day discu the question of the general removal of political dis abilities, and from what took place it is supposed bill for that purpose will be brought before the com-

The New Governor of Dish General Shaffer, the new Governor of Utah, having ecovered from his recent severe illness, has arrived in this city, and expects to take his departure for his remote station in a few days, his nomination naving been confirmed.

Watering Indiana Whiskey.

A telegram was received by the Commission Internal Revenue this morning from Collector Hill, at Columbus. Ind., stating that Hipp & Leonard's warehouse was about being submerged by the Onio river, and inquiring what should be done with the spirits stored therein. The Commissioner has in tructed the Collector to take any steps necessary o secure the safety of the property.

The Van Wyck Contested Election Case. The Committee on Elections to-day agreed upon report in the contested case of Van Wyck against Greene, giving the former the seat.

District Attorney for Miss The President sent to the Senate to-day the nomination of Chester H. Krum, to be United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Missouri.

Taxes on Interest and Dividends. Commissioner Deiano decides that the tax imdends, interest, coupons, amounts used for construc-tion, &c., by section 122, and upon salaries by section 123, did not expire on the 31st uit., but should hereafter be withheld and paid as heretofore

### POSTAL AFFAIRS.

The Postal Convention-Letter to the Post master General in Regard to Improvements in the Pastal Service-Reduction of Fees for Registered Letters, and Postage on Printed Matter Recommended.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15, 1876. The following letter has been received at the Post

The following letter has been received at the Post Office Department:—

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15, 1870.

Hon. J. A. J. Crrswell, Postmaster General:—

Sir.—The undersigned postmasters and special agents, having met at Washington by Four invitation for consultation in regard to the general good to the postal service, respectfully abount the following recommendations and suggestions:—

REGISTRATION OF LEFTRERS.

First.—That the registration fee on letters be reduced from fifteen to six cents, and in addition to said foe the regular rate of postage, as now fixed by law, be continued.

Second.—That at your discretion there be estab-

whed agencies in the large cities for registration of siters.

Third—That it would be expedient to establish a horough registration service between the large Post Mices, either by the means of a combination lock or sealed pouch, thus avoiding the giving of immediate the service.

Offices, either by the means of a combination lock or sealed pouch, thus avoiding the giving of immediate receipts.

Fourth.—We recommend the adoption of a more secure envelope for transmitting registered letters.

That the fees for money orders in amounts not exceeding ten dollars be reduced to five cents.

That in view of the reduction in the fees for the registering of valuable letters and money and for transmitting money by money orders it is advisable for the department to urge the public to use these means of transmission, and especially that attention be called to the ease with which lost or missant letters or packages, when registered, may be traced; also to the certainty and safety of the money order system, discouraging, as far as possible, the transmission of money and valuable papers by ordinary letters.

That at your discretion there be located in the Post Office of each large city an agent or deputy of the Dead Letter office, who, under the specific regulations of the department, may open and properly lispose of such held for postage, matter that may come into said office, registered letters excepted.

ome into said office, registered letters excepted.

POSTAGE.

That all unscaled circulars printed on note or let r sheet size of paper, all newspapers, weeklies ex-pited, and periodicals not exceeding four ounces i weight, dropped into a free delivery office for de-very by the office or its carriers, be rated at our very by the office or its carriers, be rated at our

submit in writing to the Postmaster General our views upon the feasibility of a reduction of the postage upon newspaper matter when mailed by the publisher, provided the same be prepaid by weight in bulk at the office of mailing, publishers being illowed to transmit specimen copies and to enclose heir posters, prospectuses and supplements. We recommend the postage on unsealed circulars, wrinted on letter or note sheef size paper, be fixed by law at one cent each, prepaid by stamp, whether intended for, local delivery or for transmission hrough the mail. That the department be requested to furnish a one cent stamped envelope for nailing circulars.

nalling circulars.
We respectfully recommend the department to use very possible means to increase the use of stamped uvelopes, with the writer's name endorsed or rinted thereon.

every possible means to increase the use of stamped envelopes, with the writer's name endorsed or printed thereon.

LETTER CARRIERS.

That we are of opinion that the present system of uniform compensation to the carriers' service is inquitable, and we recommend a division of letter carrier offices into three classes, to wit.—First class, to consist of cities having a population of 100,000 or upward; second class, cities naving a population of 50,000 and upward to 100,000; third class, cities having a population of 50,000 or less,

That carriers appointed to the cities of the first class should be compensated at \$500, and at the expiration of the next succeeding six months' service should be compensated at \$500, and at the expiration of the rext succeeding six months' service should be compensated at \$1,000.

That carriers appointed to the cities designated as "second class" should be compensated at the rate of \$700 when appointed, and at the expiration of six months' service should be compensated at the rate of \$600 when appointed, and at the expiration of six months' service should be compensated at the rate of \$600 when appointed, and at the expiration of six months service should be compensated at \$600 and at the expiration of the mext succeeding six months service should be compensated at \$600 when appointed, and at the expiration of six months service should be compensated at \$600 per annum. It is further submitted that carriers designated for appointment in "second" and "third class cities" may be employed at stations in the suburbs of large cities on toe recommendation of the postmaster of said large city.

We submit that the result of our experience justifies the endorsement of the carrier system as being preferable to any existing service for general mail delivery in the large cities. That we recommend legislation providing that no letter carrier shall be removed from office except upon specific charges of misbelavior, incompetency and detection in the violation of the fostal laws.

In our judgment it

judgment it is advisable to use horses in

THE NEW YORK AND BOSTON OFFICES.

THE NEW YORK AND BOSTON OFFICES.

That we have carefully examined the plans and designs for the New York and Boston Post offices, as submitted by Supervising Architect A. B. Mullett, and commend the same as being thoroughly adapted to the wants of the department in the respective cities, and we leel that the early completion of said buildings is demanded by the exigencies of the nostal service.

That we condemn the street tetter box now furnished the department under the contract known as the "Strong Patent," and we would respectfully recommend the adoption of a street letter box about one and a half feet in length, about six inches in depth and twelve inches in width, with an opening at the top sufficiently large to receive newspapers and inagazines, the openings or receptacles specially protected from the weather with a curved top to carry off the water, and a door in the side or front, with side fanges to take the matter from, and that the hours for collection be distinctly shown upon the outside of the box. Upon the request of the postmiter at any office the aforesale described box should be furnished with an aperture for the receival of letters only. STREET LETTER BOXES.

only.

POSTAGE STAMPS AND GUM.

We have carefully examined the specimens the new series of postage stamps as sumbinited in the Third Assistant Postmaster Genera, and heart approve of the steps taken by the department provide this series, which, in our opinion is more accordance with our national character and better take than the stamp now used. We furth recommend the special attention of the denartment. recommend the special attention of the depart to the securing of a safer and better article of for the new stamps about to be adopted.

That R. B. Lawrey's improved mailbag fastening and lock, as submitted for our examination by the Second Assistant Postmaster General, is regarded as no improvement upon the bag and lock now used in the mail service.

used in the mail service.

FREE DELIVERY.

That we have carefully examined the existing regulations of the department for the free delivery service, and have indicated in detail on the margin of the printed regulations relating to the same and submitted herewith the various changes which we respectfully submit for your consideration.

FRANKING PAIVILEGES.

That we avail ourselves on this occasion to express our approval and earnest endorsement of the efforts now being made by the President and Postmaster General to secure the abolition of the franking privilege.

ostmaster General to secure the aboution of the ranking privilege.
P. H. JONES, Postmaster, New York.
F. A. EASTMAN, Postmaster, Chicago.
H. H. BINGHAM, Postmaster, Philadelphia.
W.M. L. BURT, Postmaster, Baltimore,
W. R. HALLOWAY, Postmaster, Indianapolis.
JAMES GAYLOR, Special Agent, New York.
JOSEPH W. BRIGGS, Special Agent in charge of the carrier system.

e carrier system. SAMUEL SMITH, of the New York Post Office.

Protest of the Letter Carriers Conventie Against Classification-Mengre Salaries of

Letter Carriers. Washington, Jan. 18, 1870. The Convention of Letter Carriers reassembled to-day. The Committee on Resolutions made a report, which was adopted, that as the letter carriers were poorly paid for their ardaous duties the members of this Convention most respectfully request that there be no classification of carriers; that the carriers, knowing that the government does not desire to poorly remunerate its employes, therefore respectfully ask that Congress may order the pay of letter carriers throughout the country to be increased to \$1,200 per annum. The Convention then adjoinned to call on the Fostmaster General.

### FORTY-FIRST CONGRESS.

Second Session.

SENATE

PETITIONS PRESENTED. A large number of petitions were presented for the abolition of the franking privilege—one by Mr. CARPENTER, who said for every such petition he re-ceived twenty applications for public documents to

Mr. DRAKE, (rep.) of Mo., presented a petition from he letter carriers of St. Louis. Mo., for an increased PUBLIC LANDS IN CALIFORNIA.

Mr. Casserly, (dem.) of Cal., presented resoluions from the Legislature of California for the withdrawal from private entry of public lands in Cali-

ornia.

OCEAN TELEGRAPHS.

Mr. POMEROY, (rep.) of Kan., presented a petition from W. Corneil Jewest praying that any conditions to be imposed by Congress for laying ocean cables shail apply equally to all the existing cables, and suggesting an amendment to the Telegraph bill reported yesterday, without which an unjust salvantage would be given to the present English cable.

REGENTS OF THE SMITHRONIAN INSTITUTION.

Mr. TRUMBULL, (rep.) of Ill., offered a resolution empowering the Chair to appoint a member of the Senate to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Mr. Fessenden in the Board of Regents of the Smithsonion Institution.

The resolution was agreed to, and the Chair appointed Mr. Hamilin.

EXPENSES OF THE COMMITTEE ON BANKING AND

POINTED Mr. HEIBING.
EXPENSES OF THE COMMITTEE ON BANKING AND

EXPENSES OF THE COMMITTEE ON BANKING AND CURRENCY.

The House bill making an appropriation to defray the expenses of the House Committee on Banking and Currency was, on motion of Mr. Morrill, (rep.) of Me., taken up and passed.

THE FUBLIC LANDS.

From the Committee on Public Lands Mr. Casserly reported, with amendments, the bill relating to agricultural college lands in California; and

Mesers. Poweroy and Tipron reported bills to

Mr. Drake introduced a bill to regulate the appraisement and inspection of imports in certain cases, and other purposes—providing for the transportation of imports in bond to various interior ports of entry. Referred to the Committee on Finance.

ports of entry. Referred to the Committee on Finance.

REORGANIZATION OF THE ARMY.

Mr. ABBOTT, (rep.) of N. C., introduced a bilt to increase the efficiency of the army. Referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

It provides that the twenty-five regiments of infantry shall have the same organization as the cavality and arthiery; that no promotions or appointments shall be made in the infantry until all the unstracted officers of infantry are assigned to regiments; that officers on waiting orders shall receive no bay until assigned to some regiment or placed on some appropriate duty as now alloyed by law; that the President may place on the retired list any officer who, from long and faithful service, wounds or sickness, has become incapacitated for active service; that the commutation price of officers' rations shall be fifty cents, and that the Secretary of war shall be authorized to honorably discharge any officer on his own application, and allow him extra pay for from one to two years, according to the time of his service.

of his service.

PASS A L'OUTRE CANAL.

Mr. Kellogo, (rep.) of La., introduced a bill authorizing the construction of a canal at or near Pass a Poutre, at the entrance of the Mississippi river, without expense to the government, and for other purposes. Referred to the Committee on Commerce.

Mr. Pomeroy introduced a bill granting lands to be State of Kansas to aid in the construction of a alirond in said State. Referred to the Committee

whiskey seizures in california. Whiskey seizures in California, to the seizure of distilled spirits in California, directing the Commissioners of Internal Revenue to hold said spirits subject to judicial determination.

Mr. Sherman, (rep.) of Ohio, said in an ordinary case of seizure like this the Secretary of the frequency was empowered by law to decide upon the rights of claimants to the property, and the introduction of the matter in the Senate was interference.

sury was empowered by law to decide upon the rights of claimants to the property, and the infroduction of the matter in the Senate was interference.

The vinginia bill.

Further debate was cut off by the expiration of the moraing hour, when the Virginia bill was taken up and Ar. Thaves, (rep.) of Neb., resumed the moor in opposition to the unconditional admission of Virginia. He quoted from the Reconstruction acts to prove that Congress had not in a single line of those acts committed itself to the admission of Virginia in any contingency. The allegation that fath and been plighted was only true so far as the power of the government had been pledged to insure the protection and security of suffering loyal people of that State. He claimed that the reconstruction legislation had been approved by the people of the country, especially that provision which declared that all the people should receive equal protection of the laws. In the case of Virginia the imposition of the iron-clad outh was an unavoidable necessity, as the only means of determining the legality of her Legislature under the fourteenth amendment. The Senate should bear in mind, in treating with former rebels, that rebellion had not been crushed, but had merely been transferred from the field to the forum, and for one and the outenth amendment. The Senate should bear in mind, in treating with former rebels, that rebellion had not been crushed, but had merely been transferred from the field to the forum, and for one and to the outenth amendment and the leaders of the government should be us effectively attained by legislation like that now proposed as it could have been by the destruction of the armies of the United States in the late war. He proposed to fight the battle which commenced in 1861 unto the end. He would vote against the admission of Virginia, because guarantees for present and tuture security had not been given. In thus following the dictates of his duty he was not actuated by any feeling of vindictiveness toward the people of the South,

Mr. Drake asserted his distrust of the Virginia Legislature, and insisted upon the imposition of fundamental conditions as a means of enabling Congress more readily to deal with Virginia if she should prove treacherous to the confidence which might be reposed in her admission.

Mr. Stewart, (rep.) of Nev., read a telegram announcing the ratification of the lifteenth amendment by the Rhode Island Legislature, and said Virginia, if admitted, would complete the list of states whose votes were necessary to make the samendment part of the constitution of the United States. He replied in detail to the memorial recently presented by Mr. Summer and vindicated the character of Governor walker of Virginia.

Mr. Summer, (rep.) of Mass., said—in this controversy the character and sentiment of Governor Walker experient into whose hands it was proposed to commit the destinies of Virginia. He read from a speech, purporting to have been delivered in Virginia by that gentleman, and criticised many of its expressions as indicative of the opposition of the author to the county system and puolic school povisions of the new constitution. Portions of the speeches delivered by Governor Walker at various times and places were also quoted and commented upon as evidence of the disloyalty of his supporters.

Mr. Norron, (rep.) of Minn., delivered a lengthy

mented upon as evidence of the disloyaty of his supporters.

Mr. Norrow, (rep.) of Minn., delivered a lengthy speech in review of the reconstruction legislation, during which he incidentally stated that a military commission was now sitting in Atlanta, Ga., to determine upon the qualification of the members of the Georgia Legislature, and were exercising an authority equal to that of the Queen of Great Britain.

Mr. Edmunds, (rep.) of Vt., said if the statement was true the authority of the commission must have been received from the Queen of Great Britain.

have been received from the Queen of Great Britain, for it could not have been received from the President of the United States or from the law.

Mr. Norros reblied that the fact was as he had stated it, and said this was but one instance of the unlimited and unwarranted uses of power in the South, under the acts of Congress, which were practically defective.

iefective.

If-past four Mr. Norton yielded the floor to a to adjourn, and the Senate, apparently i with the uninteresting character of the adopted the motion by a vote of 34 years to

### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18, 1870. THE PHILADELPHIA NAVY YARD. The House resumed the consideration of the bill for the transfer of the Philadelphia Navy Yard to

League Island.

AND GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES. Mr. Dawss, (rep.) of Mass., made an argument against the passage of the bill. He showed that under it, if it could have been forced through under the previous question, the Secretary of the Navy could sell three millions of property at private sale at the Philadelphia Navy Yard to whom he pleased, only obligation on him being that he should obtain the approval of the President, who, from the nature of his duties, could pay no personal regard or atof his duties, could pay no personal regard or at tention to the proceedings. The secre tary of the Navy could sell the property tary any personal or political friend on any terms h of his duties, could pay no personal regard or attention to the proceedings. The Secretary of the Navy could sell the property to any personal or political friend on any terms he chose, and could apply the proceeds to such purposes as he pleased on League Island. He did not see why, in regard to League Island, the representatives of the people should be relieved of the duty of appropriating that money from time to time. He knew full well that the pavy yard had to be removed from Philadelphia, and he assumed that ultimately it would go to League Island. That was a fixed fact; but other tuings were fixed facts, also, and one of them was that the passage of this buil involved an immediate expenditure, independent of the three millions, of more than a minon dollars. The engineer's report to the Secretary of the Navy three years ago snowed that in order to make League Island high enough above high water mark to be beyond the encroachments of the tide, the whole area of four hundred acres would have to be raised between nine and ten feet. This would require four and a half millions cubic yards of carth, and no one would pretend that that would cost less than fity cents a yard, making an aggregate of two and a quarter millions. Not a shop could be transferred to League Island until the surface was raised, unless they wanted to have the navy yard carried to sea. He knew that an estimate of eight nundred thousand collars had been prepared at the Navy Department for League Island to follow this billing. He asked the House to consider whether there was an absolute necessity for undertaking this work at this time. Was the Treasury in socia abundant funds as to undertake it? It became the representatives of the people to answer that question. This was a time of peace. There was no pressing necessity for the enlargement of the navy yards. Nimety per cent of all the work done for the British navy was done in private navy yards. Admiral Porter had recently stated before one of the House to the estimates furnished for the navy

sicamers as a substitute.

Mr. Dawss went on to call the attention of the House to the estimates furnished for the navy yards for the next uscal years, as foliows:—To Portsmouth, N. H., \$677,000, against \$50,000 to New York, \$633,511, against \$100,000; to New York, \$633,511, against \$100,000; to Philadelphia, \$111,985, against \$25,000; to Washington, \$551,775, against \$50,000; to Mare island, \$2,282, against \$30,000. In short, the Secretary of the Navy proposed, Desides the \$500,000 for League Island, a total expenditure of \$3,007,394, against \$461,000 last year. The estimates did not inspire him with much confidence, although the Secretary promised to effect a saving of \$2,000,000 in the article of coal alone, which had only cost \$150,000 for the last two years. That was an achievement in mathematics which found a parallel only in the achievement of the Postmaster General, who proposed to save \$5,000,000 a year by the aboutton of the franking privilege, while the

franked marter would not produce two hundred thousand dollars. Be thought it the two mathematicans who had prompted these two Secretaries could be brought to ight and set to work they could show that the public dent might be paid before the expension of the administration. The book of self-countries of the public works of \$4.425. It against appropriations for the same objects last year of \$5.485,000. The administration of Andrew Johnson had been accused of profugacy in expenditures. Inc people had tred to that charge and had bound it guilty, and had taken from it the scoptre of power and put it in the hands of the republican party on its professions of economy in the administration of the publicant party on the professions of economy in the administration of the publicant party on the professions of economy in the administration of the publicant publication of the publicant publication of economy in the administration of the publicant publication of the publica so that thereby the people magat be relieved from the burdens of taxation at one end of the avenue and the public debt might be paid at the other. It was with this view, and because he beneved it to be a test question, that he would move to lay the bill on the table, and would on that metion call the yeas and nays, so that the people might know who would stand by the Committee on Appropriations in its attempt to curtail the expenditures of the government.

ment.

A very marked degree of attention was paid on both sides of the House to the speech of the chairman of the Committee on Appropriations.

Ar. Kelley, (rep.), of Pa., followed, in reply to Mr. Dawes and in support of the bill, but he had been speaking only a lew minutes when the morning hour expired, and the bill went over under the rules.

THE APPORTIONMENT BILL.

The House then took up Mr. Judd's Apportionment bill, and speeches were made by Mr. Paine in support of it and by Messrs. Hoar and Willard in opposition.

Finally Mr. Scofield, (rep.) of Pa., moved to refer

Finally Mr. Scoppers, (rep.) of Pa., moved to refer the bill to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, and that motion was agreed to—yeas 104, nays 64. The vote was principally a sectional one, Western members mostly voting in the negative.

Mr. Moore, (rep.) of N. J., presented a petition for the permanent maintenance of the ingitional over the wreek of the steamship Sectional on Paise Hook, New York bay. Also for a lightship on Winter Quarter about.

Petitions for the abolition of the franking privi-lege were presented by Messers. Knapp and Kleeves. The Japanese indemnity fund. Mr. Scofield offered a resolution calling on the Secretary of State for information as to the disposi-tion made of the \$00,000 allowed for aggressions on American commerce by Japan. Adopted.

tion made of the \$600,000 allowed for aggressions on American commerce by Japan. Adopted.

VENTILATION OF THE CAPTIOL.

Mr. GETZ, (dem.) of Pa., from the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, reported a resolution for the creation of a joint select committee on the Condition of the Senate Chamber and sail of the House as to their lighting, heating, ventilation and account qualities.

House as to their lighting, heating, vensitation and accustic quanties.

Mr. Schenck, (rep.) of Onio, remarked that the subject had been before the Ventulation committee for several years and nothing had been done. He hoped this committee would report some time between this and eternity.

Mr. Getz said that the Ventulation Committee of last Congress did report at length, but that no action was taken.

Mr. Getzeret, (rep.) of Onio, proceed to shanden Mr. GARFIELD, (rep.) of Ohlo, proposed to abandon the hall and to hold the sessions of the House in the old hall. He characterized this hall as the most skil-fully contrived slaughter house ne was ever ac-

Mr. Logan, (rep.) of Ill., endorsed everything Mr. Garneld said.

Mr. Wood, (dem.) of N. Y., said that the old hall,
with all its defects, was very far superior to the pre-ient building, and he thought that Congress should
immediately and seriously go to work to accomplish

immediately and seriously go to work to accomplish this reform.

Messrs. Brooks and Maynard expressed the opinion that the old hall was, in regard to account purposes, worse than the present one.

The resolution was then adopted.

The Brooklyn Post Office.

Mr. Sloccus (dem.) of N. Y., introduced bills for the erection of a post office and other government buildings in Brooklyn, and for the removal of the Brooklyn Navy Yard. Referred.

The House then, at four o'clock, adjourned.

### THE ALBANY AND SUSQUEHANNA RAILFOAD SUIT.

ROCHESTER. Jan. 18, 1870. The Circuit Court appointed to be held for the county of Orleans commenced its session at Aibion yesterday morning, Judge Talcott presiding. A motion was noticed for argument at this circuit on the part of Messrs. Fisk, Goold & Co., in the suit of The People vs. the Albany and Susquehanna Raifroad Company and others, lately tried in this city before Judge E. Darwin Smith, to set a ide the judgment entered by Judge Smith in favor of the Ramaey directors.

entered by Judge Shall in the Prectors.

Messrs, David Dudley Field and Thomas G. Shearman, of New York; General Martindale, of Rochester, and John Ganson, of Buffalo, sppeared as counsel for Messrs. Fisk, Gound & Co., and Messrs. Henry Smith and Mathtew Haie, of the city of Albany; John H. Mefarland, of Washington county, and George H. Danforth, of Rochester, appeared as counsel for the Emissey directors and in opposition to the motion.

motion.

The Judge declined to hear the motion upon the ground that it was improperly noticed for a circuit neld in Orleans county, the place of trial not being in that county, but in the county of Morroe, and the motion was ordered to be heard at a special term in Rochester on the 31st inst.

## AN EFFECTIVE CURE FOR RHEUMATISM.

CINCINNATI, Jan. 18, 1870. George Seel, a German, undertook, by taking forty-one pluts of medicated warm water in less than twenty-four hours, to cure rheumatism. He began at seven o'clock last evening, and at twelve o'clock had taken twenty-nine prins and was suffering exeruciating pain. This morning he died. A man named Archerborn, who prescribed for Seel, has been arrested. He says it is a recipe procured from a butcher in the old country.

#### A MOVEL CASE. The Power of Associate Bodies to Expel Members.

BUFFALO, Jan. 18, 1870. Judge Verplanck, of the Superior Court, has just decided a novel suit. George A. Deakin, for twenty

decided a novel suit. George A. Deakin, for twenty years past a member of the St. Alphonso Society, a religious benevolent association of this city, brought suit to obtain a mandamus to be reinstated to membership of that society, from which he claimed he had been maliciously expelled for refusing to pay a fine of twenty-nive cents, unjustify imposed. The Judge ordered a peremptory mandamus to issue religiously in the plainting to full membership.